

state is characterized by an undesirable level of cyclin-dependent kinase inhibitor activity in said kidney, comprising the step of reducing or eliminating the expression of the *p21* gene in said kidney of said individual.

Please amend claim 3 to read as follows:

3. (amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said pathophysiological state is selected from the group consisting of renal fibrosis, glomerulosclerosis, reduced filtration rates, and hypertension.

Please amend claim 5 to read as follows:

5. (amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the reduction or elimination of the expression of the *p21* gene is performed by a technique selected from the group consisting of drug therapy, and genetic manipulation.

Please amend claim 6 to read as follows:

6. (amended) A method for treating or preventing chronic progressive renal failure in an individual, comprising the step of reducing or eliminating the expression of the *p21* gene in one

or both kidneys of said individual, wherein said reducing or eliminating the expression of the *p21* gene results in the manipulation of cyclin-dependent kinase inhibitor activity in one or both kidneys.

Please amend claim 8 to read as follows:

8. (amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the reduction or elimination of the expression of the *p21* gene is performed by a technique selected from the group consisting of drug therapy and genetic manipulation.

Please cancel claims 2, 4, 7, 9 and 10.

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-10 are pending. Claims 1-10 are rejected. Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, and 8 are amended. Claims 2, 4, 7, 9 and 10 are cancelled.